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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

TRANSMITTAL FORM

(To be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Application Number	10/678,973
Filing Date	October 3, 2003
First Named Inventor	Steve Walker
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket No.	110177.401C1

ENCLOSURES (*check all that apply*)

- ☐ Fee Transmittal Form
  - ☐ Fee Attached
- ☐ Amendment/Response
  - ☐ After Final
  - ☐ Affidavits/declaration(s)
- ☐ Extension of Time Request
- ☐ Express Abandonment Request
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement; Form PTO-1449
- ☐ Cited References
- ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
- ☐ Response to Missing Parts under 37 C.F.R. 1.52 or 1.53
- ☐ Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application
- ☐ Drawing(s)
- ☐ Request for Corrected Filing Receipt
- ☐ Licensing-related Papers
- ☐ Petition
- ☐ Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application
- ☐ Power of Attorney, Revocation, Change of Correspondence Address
- ☐ Declaration
- ☐ Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b)
- ☐ Terminal Disclaimer
- ☐ Request for Refund
- ☐ CD(s), Number of CD(s) _____
- ☐ After Allowance Communication to Group
- ☐ Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
- ☐ Appeal Communication to Group *(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)*
- ☐ Proprietary Information
- ☐ Status Letter
- ☒ Return Receipt Postcard
- ☐ Additional Enclosure(s) *(please identify below)*:

Remarks

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Individual Name	Susan D. Belcher	Customer Number 00500
Signature		
Date	December 3, 2003	

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

Typed or printed name	Michelle Tennant	
Signature	Michelle Tennant	Date: December 3, 2003

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

PATENT

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December 3, 2003 Michelle Tennant

Date Michelle Tennant

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants	:	Steve Walker et al.
Application No.	:	10/678,973
Filed	:	October 3, 2003
For	:	METHOD, APPARATUS AND SYSTEM TO MITIGATE NOISE DURING UNLOADING OF CONTAINERS
	Docket No.	: 110177.401C1
	Date	: December 3, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97 through 1.98, applicants wish to make known to the Patent and Trademark Office the 23 references set forth on the attached Form PTO-1449. This application relies, under 35 U.S.C. § 120, on the earlier filing date of prior Application No. 10/063,422, filed April 22, 2002. The references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 were submitted to and/or cited by the Patent and Trademark Office in this prior application and, therefore, are not required to be provided in this application. If the Examiner wishes, copies will be provided upon request. As to any reference supplied, applicants do not admit that it is "prior art" under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 or 103, and specifically reserve the right to traverse or antedate any such reference, as by a showing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or other method. Although the aforesaid references are made known to the Patent and Trademark Office

in compliance with applicants' duty to disclose all information they are aware of which is believed relevant to the examination of the above-identified application, applicants believe that their invention is patentable.

Please acknowledge receipt of this Information Disclosure Statement and kindly make the cited references of record in the above-identified application.

Applicants believe this Information Disclosure Statement has been timely filed, however, the Director is authorized to charge any fee due by way of this Information Disclosure Statement to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090.

Respectfully submitted,
Seed Intellectual Property Law Group PLLC

Susan D. Betcher
Registration No. 43,498

SDB:mt

Enclosures:
Postcard
Form PTO-1449

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FORM PTO-1449 (REV.7-80)	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 110177.401C1	APPLICATION NO. 10/678,973
	INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)	APPLICANTS Steve Walker et al.	
		FILING DATE October 3, 2003	GROUP ART UNIT

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	2,228,201	01/07/41	Cotes et al.	230	117	
	AB	2,282,201	05/05/42	Neuman	214	113	
	AC	2,817,792	12/24/57	Chew	317	2	
	AD	3,692,335	09/19/72	Vickers et al.	285	49	
	AE	3,850,111	11/26/74	Hansen	104	245	
	AF	3,944,092	03/16/76	Ebeling et al.	214	302	
	AG	4,090,626	05/23/78	Ebeling et al.	214	302	
	AH	4,141,459	02/27/79	Eli, Jr.	220	85 K	
	AI	4,331,214	05/25/82	Darby	181	296	
	AJ	4,550,849	11/05/85	Adsit	220	71	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION YES	TRANSLATION NO
	AK	DE 3710136 A1	10/13/88	Germany (+ English Abstract)		X
	AL	DE 4430728 A1	03/07/96	Germany (+ English Abstract)		X
	AM	JP 8-151198	06/11/96	Japan (+ English Abstract)		X
	AN	DE 19634709 A1	03/05/98	Germany (+ English Abstract)		X
	AO	WO 00/15538	03/23/00	PCT		

OTHER PRIOR ART *(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*

	AP		
	AQ		
	AR		

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED

* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not criteria is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant(s).

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FORM PTO-1449 (REV.7-80)	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 110177.401C1	APPLICATION NO. 10/678,973
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	BA	4,708,576	11/24/87	Conley	414	607	
	BB	4,886,411	12/12/89	Pieperhoff et al.	414	408	
	BC	5,221,176	06/22/93	Allen et al.	414	785	
	BD	5,230,600	07/27/93	Marino	414	607	
	BE	5,330,071	07/19/94	Parker	220	645	
	BF	5,490,606	02/13/96	Lombardo	220	324	
	BG	5,575,608	11/19/96	Yau et al.	414	607	
	BH	6,332,745 B1	12/25/01	Duell et al.	414	406	
	BI						
	BJ						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION YES	TRANSLATION NO
	BK					
	BL					
	BM					
	BN					
	BO					

OTHER PRIOR ART *(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*

	BP		
	BQ		
	BR		

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED

* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not criteria is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant(s).